



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/539,694	06/16/2005	Christopher Busch	NL021269	6562
24737	7590	01/14/2008	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS			MULVANEY, ELIZABETH EVANS	
P.O. BOX 3001			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
BRIARCLIFF MANOR, NY 10510			1794	
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
01/14/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/539,694	BUSCH ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Elizabeth E. Mulvaney	1794	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/16/05, 2/6/07.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-3, 7-9 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by US 4,927,681.

The reference discloses an optical recording medium comprising a substrate having recesses formed therein which are filled with a light-sensitive compound forming discrete recording areas (pattern of bit positions). The recesses are formed with a stamper. The recesses are formed in rows having a spiral pattern. The recesses are covered with a reflective layer. See col. 2.

Claims 1-3, 5-9 and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by US 5,591,501.

The reference discloses an optical recording medium comprising a substrate having cavities formed therein which are filled with a dielectric material and a recording material to form discrete recording areas. The cavities are embossed in the substrate and are spaced a diameter apart from each other. The cavities are formed in linear tracks. See col. 4.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 4,788,097.

The reference teaches an optical recording medium comprising islands of recording material. See Figure 3.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,206,665.

The reference teaches an optical recording medium comprising islands of recording material.

See Figure 3.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,188,923.

The reference teaches an optical recording medium comprising islands of recording material.

See Figure 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,591,501.

The reference discloses an optical recording medium having cavities formed in a substrate which are filled with a recording material. It is recognized that the reference does not disclose square or hexagonal cavities. However, as the reference does disclose that the shapes of the cavities may be varied, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use any known shape. It is also recognized that the reference does not disclose a reflective layer formed between the substrate and the recording material but discloses a reflective layer formed above the recording material (as the light is incident from the substrate). However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to form the reflective layer on whichever side of the recording material is opposite to the light incident side as the purpose of the reflective layer is to reflect the incident light, not to block it.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Milton Cano, can be reached at (571) 272-1398. The fax number for the organization where the application is assigned is (571) 273-8307. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information retrieval (PAIR) System. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR System, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR System, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free).



Elizabeth Evans Mulvaney
Primary Examiner
Group 1700
571-272-1527